

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the above-referenced application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 to 61 have been canceled by previous Applicant amendment.

62. (Currently Amended) A method for automatically directing data in a computer network based on traffic demands, comprising the steps of:

~~providing a set of protection paths in a computer network;~~

determining data traffic demands of the computer network by collecting and processing specific information on one or more traffic parameters reported by one or more entities in the computer network; and

automatically directing data through a set of primary paths and ~~the~~ a set of protection paths in the computer network based on the determined traffic demands.

63. (Currently Amended) A method for automatically directing data, comprising the steps of:

determining data traffic demands of a computer network; and

automatically directing data in the computer network based on the determined traffic demands; and

~~minimizing an intervention of electrical devices when routing wavelengths either individually or in groups.~~